payable to Delhi State, as a regular mechanism, for the year 1994-95 and onwards". Hence the deduction from Plan assistance for the earlier dues could not be done.

(c) The deduction from the Plan assistance of Delhi is in compliance of Cabinet decision by way of adjustment for payment to BTPS against its dues from DESU and therefore its restoration does not arise.

(d) The Chief Minister of Delhi has been informed that the financial position of BTPS has become very critical in view of the continuous default and irregularity in payment of its dues by DESU and that all necessary steps be taken to improve the financial position of DESU including maximising the generation, enforcing better supply & demand management measures, reduction of its T&D losses and checking of pilferage of power etc.

Agreement with Britain for power Projects

1179. SHRI T. VENKATRAM REDDY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any expert team of Industrialists led by British Power Minister visited India in connection with setting up of power projects in the country;

(b) if so, whether any Memorandum of Understanding has been signed;

(c) whether the team found Orissa best suited for settig up the power plant; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL): (a) and (b) A team led by the British Minister for Trade, had visited India late last year with a large business delegation which included representatives from the Power industry. Amongst the agreements and announcements made was an agreement to refurbish power stations in India signed between an Indian company and a British collaborator.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. There is no information available with the Minisry of Power.

Agreement signed by National Hydro Electric Power Corporation Ltd. (NHPC)

1180. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Francici Farmon Ke Consortium Ke Saath Karar Se NHPC Ko Arbon Rupey Ka Nuksaan Hoga" and "Bharat bijili ke liye krishi-kachre Ka paryog kare" appearing in the Jansatta and Da'nik Jagran dated 5th and 8th August, 1994 respectively.

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto,

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) As the French Company responsible for the civil construction work at Dulhasti HE Project was not prepared to continue work at the Project site in view of its perception of the securiy environment prevailng in the area. NHPC has entered into an agreement with the French Consortium which envisages termination of the contract with the French civil construction firm and continuation of the remaining four members of the Consortium with their obligations. This agreement was arrived at after prolonged negotiations between the two sides in regard to resumption of work on the project. The construction equipment and ma